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stand why we should not be able to save food enough to feed the whole world.

In none of the above have I taken account of the many ways in which the daily work of the library, its regular routine, has been colored by war work; the difficult matter of book selection, of subscription to new periodicals, the distressing complications that have arisen by the failure to receive books and periodicals, especially from abroad, the trouble in financial records that has been brought about, the difficulty and efforts required to get books of any sort from abroad. Especially has war work

colored reference work in all sections of the library.

At the beginning I alluded to the amazing number of opportunities that have opened for library work in connection with the war. It was a new thought that books and their custodians could be mobilized for military service. I know of no better statement of this anywhere in print than that prepared by Mr. Wynkoop as program or syllabus for the conduct of the thirty state library institutes and printed in the May number of *New York Libraries*.

WHAT THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY IS DOING TO HELP WIN THE WAR

By J. C. M. HANSON, *Associate Director, University of Chicago Libraries*

For the winning of a war there are said to be three essential and preëminent requisites: Man-power, money, morale.

As to the first, the average American university library cannot boast of any appreciable surplus. The University of Chicago Library may or may not represent the average in this respect. It had, on our entrance into the war, 81 women assistants and 24 men, and of the latter number only eight of military age. The result is that the library can present only five names of assistants actually in military service.

As for the second requisite, money, perhaps the less said the better. With seventy out of one hundred assistants receiving salaries running from \$30 to \$75 a month one cannot expect to make a showing comparable to that of the great business corporations or other institutions with vast financial resources. Still the eagerness to give and the willingness to sacrifice is there in full measure, and the saying credited to the Apostle Peter, "Gold and silver have I none, but what I have give I Thee," may well apply to many of our library assistants during the last year. Subscriptions to the Red Cross, the various ambulances, particularly the University and the Henry E. Legler ambulances,

the three Liberty Loans, thrift stamps, and various charitable enterprises have been participated in by all. I know of no exceptions.

There remains the third element, morale, and here is where the University Library may, in common with other libraries and similar institutions, claim recognition.

It has been said that morale is likely to prove the deciding factor in the present war, also that the farther from home the scene of conflict, the more difficult for the soldier to keep up a firm spirit for the work in hand. It was, no doubt, with this in mind, and fully aware of the powerful influence exercised by the printed book for instruction, entertainment, and in general for the moral uplift of the soldier that the American Library Association inaugurated its plan for providing camp libraries.

In the first confusion, due to a depleted force, without a corresponding diminution in pressure for service, assistants in the university library were a little puzzled as to just how and where to offer their services. A wish had been expressed by librarians of the central west that the University of Chicago undertake, as a special function, the collecting of books and ma-

terial on the war. The proposal was received with favor by the president and the departments of instruction, and plans for the collection and their partial realization may be said to constitute the first step in the war work of the library.

Almost simultaneously with the demand for a war collection came demands from faculty, students, alumni and others for books on military and naval science, general and special. Little attention having been paid to these latter subjects prior to the war, there was no nucleus around which to build. It was necessary to begin at the bottom.

Calls for aid from the A. L. A. War Service at Washington came next and here the library was fortunate in being able to offer the services of the head of its reference department, Mr. E. N. Manchester, for three months, during which period he served as camp librarian at Camp Cody, New Mexico. His letters, and, on his return, the recital of his experiences, the needs of the soldiers, and their interest and appreciation of what the library was able to do for them, served to kindle the enthusiasm of the entire force, and when, soon after, the time came for the drive for books, the assistants responded with a will.

Before the A. L. A. had begun its active campaign for books, the Great Lakes Naval Station, north of Chicago, was receiving thousands upon thousands of volumes, which were piled up in boxes and on the floors in almost hopeless confusion. The libraries of Chicago immediately responded to the call for help, and from the University of Chicago libraries ten assistants went up for two days each, sorted books, wrote cards and helped prepare books for the various camps. The library contributed half of their time, and, at first, paid transportation. Later the A. L. A. took over the work, and the Great Lakes library is now one that we of the central west point to with special pride.

The organization and registration for war work of the women of Chicago next engaged the attention of several members of the staff. Miss Elizabeth Lamb, reviser

in the cataloging department, had charge of the preparation and filing of the cards for the sixth ward, near the university. Nearly the entire cataloging department volunteered to help in supervising this work. Other assistants have taken a leading part in preparing name index cards for twenty-six other wards, something over 300,000 cards having so far been filed.

Before the work on the registration cards had been completed the drive for books was on. Four committees were appointed to assume general charge and almost every assistant was enrolled to help out in some way or other. It was our ambition to make the collection of the university not only large numerically, but one which should contain only books likely to prove of real service to the soldiers. Moreover, it was decided to pocket, plate, label, classify and catalog all the books prior to shipment. This latter decision was reached at a committee meeting held when only about 1,000 volumes were in sight. Later when the number threatened to exceed the 9,000 mark, it became necessary to call for outside help for the simpler work of pasting, labeling and marking. The clerical work was done chiefly by the women members of the staff, the heavier work of packing and moving fell to the men. Students from the University Y. M. C. A., and from various fraternities have been of assistance, offering their own services, and, in some cases, their automobiles to carry books to and from the university library and the different deposit stations established in the neighborhood. The University of Chicago Press has printed and distributed posters and announcements and transported and delivered books.

Of other activities in which this university library has had a share may be mentioned the rather important work of soliciting and distributing pamphlets on the war to students and members of the faculty. This has fallen to the assistant in charge of the war collection. Over 10,000 pamphlets have been distributed gratis. The same assistant has also maintained a

number of bulletin boards for war posters, pamphlets, cuttings, contributed almost daily notices to the student papers, compiled reading lists on the war and in various ways assisted students and professors engaged in the study of the war, or preparing for active service of some kind in connection with it.

I need not add that the ladies of the staff have done their share and more in knitting and in preparing surgical dressings and the like.

There are other activities too numerous to mention connected with the neighborhood clubs, charitable organizations, Red Cross, Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., churches, Council of Defense and National Security League, each of which has demanded and received its share of assistance from members of the staff. All have responded as far as their strength and resources would permit. Some, I fear, have in their eagerness and enthusiasm exceeded the limits of safety and are as a consequence threatened with physical and nervous breakdown. It has been a part of the directors' duties to warn against and counteract over-zealous application on part of those not strong enough to stand the extra strain.

In addition to the collecting and preparing of books for shipment to camps, still going forward at the university, the assistants have recently undertaken to devote one evening a week to similar duties at the Chicago Public Library. As the distance of the latter institution from the homes of the assistants is from eight to twelve miles, and Chicago lacks as yet a real system of rapid transit, the participation on part of the university library assistants represents also in this instance a contribution of time and energy worthy of mention.

Maintenance of war gardens by some of the men and service of others as speakers upon the different loans and upon other subjects directly related to the war, are matters of course.

Finally, the assistants decided last winter at a staff sociable to undertake the support of two French orphans for the dura-

tion of the war, the contributions for this purpose being entirely voluntary.

What has here been recited must serve, then, to indicate briefly a part of the activities by which one university library has endeavored to aid in the prosecution of the war. Whether or not it will serve also as a fair representation of the experience of other institutions of the same class, I cannot say. Some may have done more, some less. In any case, it is safe to say that the spirit which has permeated the assistants and stimulated their efforts at Chicago will be found also in the other libraries of the country.

In conclusion, I can hardly refrain from giving expression to a thought that has been on my own mind, as I know it must have been on that of practically all of you during the last year. It is briefly this: The war must be looked at, not only from the point of view of immediate military exigency, but with a view also to its ultimate results, not only its material results, but the moral and intellectual as well.

Just as it has been shown that the university library can contribute more to the maintenance of morale than to the supply of man-power or money, so it can no doubt, in common with other learned institutions, give more effective support to the Government and other powers in counteracting certain dangerous and pernicious influences at home, than through direct participation in warfare abroad. I need hardly mention the epidemics of hysteria and weak-mindedness which break out at crises like the present one and which tend to cheapen and weaken our patriotic endeavors. Even more serious are the insidious efforts of selfish and unscrupulous interests to utilize our emergency for personal profit and gain.

It will be recalled that the United States Commissioner of Education has sent out a timely and emphatic warning against the ill-advised and shortsighted campaign against the study of foreign languages. In the great economic reorganization, and far-reaching reconstruction which it is agreed must come after the war, and for which

even now a number of nations are making the most feverish preparations, men and women with knowledge of foreign languages will be needed in constantly increasing numbers. We of the university and great reference libraries have perhaps had better opportunity than the average to note the frequency with which persons in search of the best information on a given subject are again and again blocked by their lack of knowledge, not only of the subjects treated in the books and articles laid before them, but particularly by their ignorance of the languages in which the books are printed. The handicaps resulting from such ignorance must be patent to all. They are so serious that I for one do not wish to see them saddled on those who during the period of reconstruction to come will be called on, each in their field, to uphold the dignity and position of this republic in its relations to other nations.

In view of this situation and with our knowledge of what confronts us, it would seem to be the safe and proper course for libraries to consider, not only the immediate future, the military situation of the moment, but look farther ahead in planning their share in the efforts required to win the war.

Prominent writers and thinkers have, before and after the outbreak of the war, sounded warnings against the tendencies noticed not only among the great autocracies and plutocracies and the other imperialistic combinations of the world, but among the minor nations as well, to set up as their aims and ambitions material gain, acquisition of money and wealth, control of commercial and natural resources at home and abroad, opportunities for extra lucrative investments, while too frequently assuming toward sound and thorough knowledge and all that pertains to the domain of philosophic thought and idealism, an attitude of contempt. It has been claimed also that the most effective weapons for counteracting such tendencies must be sought for in the extension of knowledge and education based on sound moral principles. There should be no hesitation

in deciding the position to be assumed by libraries to these and similar movements for human betterment.

It has been said further that our time is not rich in great personalities, that the proper atmosphere for fostering such personalities cannot be provided amid the rush and struggle for gain which has characterized particularly the latter part of the nineteenth and early part of the twentieth centuries. As proof has been cited the growing tendency to read only the daily papers—to cut even this reading to the minimum by glancing over the headlines in search of something to satisfy the craving for the sensational, for something to supply a moment of stimulation in the great weariness from ceaseless toil.

To wean at least a small part of the generation now coming forward away from this unending struggle for material gain, for sensation, for personal aggrandizement, to bring them to read good books, to think and search their own thought, to give some small part of their time to moral and intellectual ideals and efforts—might not this perhaps be credited to libraries as in a sense a contribution to the winning of the war?

In other words, is there any task, no matter how lowly, which may not be considered as an aid to winning the war, provided it has as its aim the spiritual and moral development of the individual, helps to enrich his life, teaches him to think, sheds light and happiness on him and his environment?

Finally, should not, after all, the main contribution of university libraries toward the winning of the war be sought for in their own special fields of endeavor, in the maintenance and fostering of the principles laid down in the world's greatest books, such as are found embodied in the Golden Rule, in the great legal codes and moral systems handed down to us, truths, which history shows us to have been the chief foundation stones wherever and whenever human society has been able to function with some degree of security and success?

Personally, I am utterly unable to appreciate or sympathize with the claim that a ruthless war is the most effective war. It fell to my lot once to make a study of the Thirty Years War with special reference to the participation in it of Gustavus Adolphus. His maxim "The best Christian is the best soldier," formed the basis for the rigid discipline enforced in his armies while he remained in command and there is no evidence that it interfered in the slightest with his military success. Lord Roberts until 1904 said a week or two before his death, "Let us fight against the enemy in such a manner that we shall earn not only his respect, but

also his friendship." The cultivation of sentiments like those here referred to, the fostering of a broad and liberal education on firm moral foundations, preservation of freedom of thought and expression, with due regard to the demands of great national emergencies, are to my mind important issues which no university library or similar institution working for the moral, and intellectual uplift of the people, can afford to ignore, not only in its endeavors to end the war successfully, but in all efforts tending towards the restoration of orderly and normal conditions among men.

IS CAMP LIBRARY SERVICE WORTH WHILE?

BY ADAM STROHM, *Librarian, Detroit Public Library (Camp Librarian, Camp Gordon, Ga.)*

The question should, I think, be considered from two points of view: Is it worth while to the men in the army to have these libraries; and is it worth while to the camp librarian to give service in the camps?

As far as the first consideration is concerned, I hold that the presence of camp libraries in the camps is justified if we bring to these camps the professional skill and ability which we possess, an ability that is not available through any other organization and never has been. For that purpose it is necessary that all good librarians feel under obligation to volunteer or accept a call from headquarters. It would mean in connection with that, that not only should they accept this call but should give a reasonable permanency to their service. The replacement idea in the camp library service is not a success.

In a general way, these camp libraries or the camp library service is justified only if every policy that we lay out, if every effort that we give to it, is for the national purpose for which these camps are organized. In this work we should forget not

only the possible glory that may be in the assignment that is given to us, possibly the reflection that comes to our home institutions; we should forget our identity altogether and simply approach the whole problem from the national point of view. And in that regard I differ with some camp librarians. I think that the camp library is not like a regular city or county library. It is a special library for a special purpose.

The statement has already been made as to the necessity of technical books—all the books that are needed for the development and understanding of military arts—and the need of these books is too obvious for further comment. Add to these all the books available on flowers, rocks, photography, books on fine arts; but those are the incidental interests, those are the incidental happenings in giving this service. The big need, the real need, is to get books of analytical power and devote our skill to the training of men for a special purpose.

It has been repeatedly said and it has just the same force now as it had six months ago, that the only purpose of this whole activity is to win the war, which is